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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.	:	09/991,702	Confirmation No.:	3992
Applicant	:	Gino Palumbo		
Filed	:	Nov. 26, 2001		
TC/A.U.	:	1742 ✓		
Examiner	:	S. Ip		
Docket No.	:	AUST3001		
Customer No.	:	23364		

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22202-3514

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated October 1, 2003, the period for response to which is set to expire on November 1, 2003.

The office action is a restriction requirement wherein the examiner alleges that the application is directed to two patentably distinct inventions which have been categorized as invention I (claims 1-12 and 14-39 drawn to a recrystallized lead or lead alloy) and invention II (claim 13 drawn to a method for reducing intergranular degradation of lead or lead alloys).

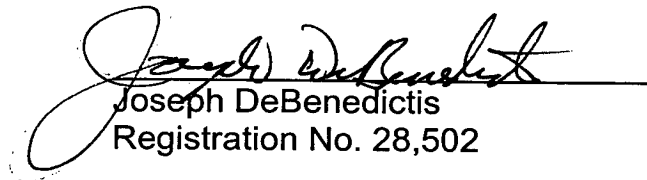
The examiner requires applicant to elect one of the two inventions for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, applicant hereby elects invention I (i.e., claims 1-12 and 14-39 which are directed to the recrystallized lead or lead alloys).

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In view of the above election, it is now believed that the examiner should now proceed with examination of the elected claims in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Respectfully submitted,
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

Date: October 27, 2003



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